

Appn. No. 09/187,3370

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Docket No. 22-0009

**Amendments to the Claims**

1 (Currently Amended): A method for interference management of a processing communications satellite serving multiple user terminals in a satellite-based cellular communications system using a combination of frequency-division and time-division multiple access, said method comprising:

receiving a request for service from a user terminal;

prioritizing the multiple user terminals according to [[a]] selected criteria, wherein said selected criteria include includes an amount of error correction selected by the user terminal;

accessing a database of communications system parameters including user terminal database parameters having a prioritization listing, antenna pattern parameters, spacecraft/antenna pointing error parameters, and link condition database parameters;

applying an algorithm to at least one communications system parameter from the database of communication's system parameters to determine a connection parameter to minimize intra-system interference based in part upon the database of communications system parameters for the user terminal;

allocating the connection parameter to the user terminal; and

making a communications connection with the processing communications satellite by the user terminal using the connection parameter.

2-5 (Canceled).

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6 (Currently Amended): The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising monitoring to determine whether if the communications connection is still active.

7 (Previously Presented): The method as defined in claim 6 further comprising redetermining the connection parameter for the user terminal based upon an updated database of communications system parameters.

8 (Previously Presented): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein the connection parameter is a frequency channel.

9 (Original): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein the connection parameter is a time slot.

10 (Previously Presented): The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising updating the database of communications system parameters after the communication connection ends.

11-20 (Canceled).

21 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said selected criteria include a includes bandwidth selected by the user terminal.

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22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selected criteria include includes a fee schedule of the user terminal.

23-24 (Canceled).